

**JAN SCHNEIDER**

**Sarasota, Florida 34236**

2008 AUG 14 A 11:17

**Campaign: 941-351-2008**

**August 6, 2008**

**By Facsimile (202-219-3923) and Mail**

**Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 200463**

**Re: MUR 5982 (Christine Jennings)**

**Dear General Counsel:**

**This letter regards our complaint against Christine Jennings, Chris Jennings for Congress, Christine Jennings for Congress and Jennings 2008: MUR 5982.**

**As a preliminary matter, the purpose of this communication is by no means to inquire into any facts or actions by the Federal Election Commission concerning or relating to the above-mentioned MUR, which obviously must remain strictly confidential at this stage. Rather, given the unfortunate circumstance of the FEC having lacked a quorum for several months, what this letter seeks is to inquire as to the possible procedural effects on statutory timelines. Our campaign needs to take immediate action based on your response or lack thereof.**

**In brief, the MUR was filed back in mid-March, and the 120-day period set forth in 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8) expired in mid-July. Both the complainant and the respondent (as well as the incumbent) are again running in this election cycle, and therefore the issues raised are of considerable urgency. This creates something of a conundrum.**

**On the one hand, I am fully prepared to file in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. As a practical matter, given that we are now at the 90-day point before the election and that there is a 60-day response time, only an extremely small filing window remains to have any realistic chance of obtaining information before the election. In fact, realistically, a complaint would have to be filed by early next week at the latest.**

**On the other hand, clearly the FEC was hampered by its inability to take decisions for several months until last June. In the circumstances, as a complainant and a lawyer, I have a certain degree of empathy for the plight of the Commission and particularly those in the Office of the General Counsel. As a lawyer and an individual, I also do not believe in creating unnecessary work or legal hassles.**

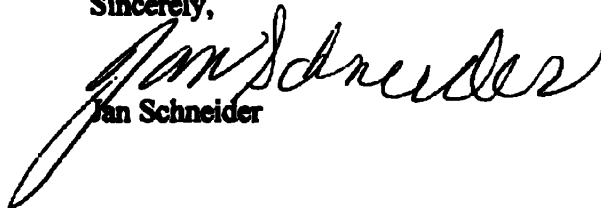
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Accordingly, if the law and FEC rules permit, would you please advise concerning the likelihood that the FEC will conclude action on the MUR in question in advance of the upcoming election? Has the Commission adopted any guidelines for timelines that were initiated and/or expired during the period it lacked a quorum? In asking these questions, I am, of course, aware that the confidentiality requirements of the FEC do not prevent me as a complainant from disclosing the substance of the complaint itself or from engaging in conduct that leads to the publication of information contained in the complaint. Nevertheless, as a lawyer, I remain very reluctant to issue press releases or otherwise to comment on ongoing legal or administrative proceedings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jan Schneider

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